



## Weekly Field Memo – August 27, 2014

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### **FY-2015 Special Education Expenditure Report Packet**

**Audience:** Superintendents, Special Education Directors, Business Managers

The FY-2015 Special Education Expenditure Report forms and instructions are now available at

<http://education.vermont.gov/special-ed-finance-and-medicaid#FY15>.

Contact: Nicole Tousignant, (802) 479-1137, [nicole.tousignant@state.vt.us](mailto:nicole.tousignant@state.vt.us)

### **SBAC Online Panel Participation Opportunity**

**Deadline: September 19, 2014**

**Audience:** All

You can shape the future of assessments and make your voice heard on Smarter Balanced achievement level scores by participating in an Online Panel this October. Join thousands of educators, parents and other interested parties to participate virtually in recommending achievement levels on the new Smarter Balanced Assessment. [Learn more and register by September 19 to participate.](#)

**Contact:** Frank Gerdeman, Asst. Dir., ISL, Secondary & Adult, (802) 479-1381 or [frank.gerdeman@state.vt.us](mailto:frank.gerdeman@state.vt.us)

## Reminder: Notifying Parents about Supplemental Educational Services (SES)

**Audience:** All Title I Schools in Year 2 School Improvement and Beyond

All Title I Schools in Year 2 School Improvement and Beyond are required to notify parents **no later than the end of the first week of school** about the opportunity for students who are eligible for free and reduced lunch to receive tutoring in addition to the regular school day in math and/or reading. To review the federal requirements for notifying parents and offering SES please see [Local Education Agency \(LEA\) Responsibilities and Requirements for Supplemental Educational Services \(SES\) - School Year 2014-2015](#) on the AOE SES webpage at <http://goo.gl/xjjjU5>.

**Contact:** Carol Duley, School Effectiveness Program Manager, (802) 479-1279 or [carol.duley@state.vt.us](mailto:carol.duley@state.vt.us)

## Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) Alternate Assessment System

**Audience:** Superintendents, Administrators, Curriculum Coordinators, Special Education Directors and Coordinators

**Deadline:** Student enrollment deadline is 10/1/14

**Description -** The DLM Alternate Assessment System is now up and running! School year 2014 – 15 marks the administration of the DLM assessment to all Vermont public school students, grades 3 through 8, and 11, who will be taking the alternate assessment. The student enrollment window runs from now through October 1. More information will be forthcoming.

**Contact –** Patricia Shane, Inclusive Education Coordinator, 479-1443, [patti.shane@state.vt.us](mailto:patti.shane@state.vt.us)

**Resources -** <http://dynamiclearningmaps.org/>

## Request for Support: Proficiency-based Learning Models and Resources

**Audience:** Superintendents, Principals, Curriculum Directors

The Agency of Education is requesting support from the field in our effort to provide Proficiency-Based Learning (PBL) guidance and resources to Vermont's schools. In addition to AOE-developed Proficiency-based Graduation Requirements (PBGRs), we would like to help share locally developed proficiencies with educators around the state. To this end, we will be posting a number of locally developed resources on our new web site.

If you would be willing to share your work on proficiency-based learning models and proficiency-based graduation with other Vermont educators, please contact Pat Fitzsimmons at [pat.fitzsimmons@state.vt.us](mailto:pat.fitzsimmons@state.vt.us) or (802) 479-1425.

## Common Core Implementation Sessions in Southern Vermont

**Audience:** Educators Focusing on Common Core Implementation

The Vermont Professional Learning Network has announced a one-day session on the Common Core for educators in southern Vermont. Join us at Stratton Resort on Tuesday, September 9 for two major topics: Building Systems for Common Core Implementation and Tying Strategic Instruction to CCSS. The day will include short presentations and focused discussion and is open to teams and individuals. Details and registration can be found at: [www.VermontPLN.org](http://www.VermontPLN.org)

Contact Casey Murrow, [casey.murrow@vermontpln.org](mailto:casey.murrow@vermontpln.org)

## Training of Trainers for Educators of English Language Learners (ELLs)

**Audience:** Educators/Leaders who collaborate, share resources, and provide professional learning

**Deadline:** September 26, 2014

On November 18-20, 2014 the VT Agency of Education (AOE) will offer a 3-day, interactive Training of Trainers workshop in Barre, VT (to be followed up with a two-day Lesson Planning workshop on February 10-11, 2015). The goals are to: 1) prepare the first cohort of facilitators with deeper

understandings, activities, and facilitation skills for professional learning related to the WIDA English Language Development (ELD) Framework; and 2) build a statewide network of ELL professionals, who collaborate with classroom, content teachers and instructional leaders/coaches to ensure ELLs gain access to academic language and content learning opportunities in their SU/district/school. Click [here](#) for complete workshop description, selection criteria, and application form for participants.

**Contact:** Jim McCobb, ELL Program Coordinator, (802) 479-1273 or [james.mccobb@state.vt.us](mailto:james.mccobb@state.vt.us)

## **Scoop.it! Resources for Secondary Mathematics (CCSSM)**

**Audience:** All Mathematics Educators

The purpose of the Scoop.it! page for Mathematics Resources is to offer a platform for gathering links in one place that are easy to access, and “scoopable” to other social networks or blogs-Twitter, Facebook, and WordPress with the click of a mouse! Readers can also make suggestions for additions to the page or offer a personal reaction to the sites listed. There are now separate Scoop.it links to [Elementary](#) and [Secondary](#) Mathematics Education Resources found on the [Math AOE webpage](#). Our Scoop.it pages are updated frequently!

**Contact:** Lara White, Secondary Mathematics Program Coordinator, (802) 479-1364 or [lara.white@state.vt.us](mailto:lara.white@state.vt.us)

## **Supplemental Educational Services (SES) Approved Provider List Has Been Amended**

**Audience:** All

Three more approved SES providers have been added to the Supplemental Educational Services (SES) Approved Provider List for the 2014-15 School Year. The revised list is on the AOE SES webpage at <http://goo.gl/xjjiU5>. Please be sure parents see the revised list including the three additional providers.

**Contact:** Carol Duley, School Effectiveness Program Manager, (802) 479-1279 or [carol.duley@state.vt.us](mailto:carol.duley@state.vt.us)

## **Vermont Connected: Envisioning Future of Vermont's Digital Economy**

**Audience:** Teachers, Technology Coordinators, Principals, Superintendents

Join the Vermont Council on Rural Development at their Summit, [Vermont Connected: Envisioning Future of Vermont's Digital Economy](#), September 23, at the Vermont State House in Montpelier. Read the full agenda [here](#), and find a list of speakers [here](#). Go to: [VTDigitalEconomy.org/Conference](http://VTDigitalEconomy.org/Conference) for more information and to register.

**Contact:** Margaret McCoy, (802) 223-6091

## **ConnectED Opportunities for Classrooms**

**Audience:** Technology Coordinators, Principals, Curriculum Coordinators, Teachers

On September 11, the State Education Technology Directors Association will host a webinar that will showcase a variety of offerings for schools from a number of education technology companies. The offerings include free licensing, software applications and discounted services for use in schools and classrooms. For more information and to register for the webinar refer to [this link](#).

**AOE Contact:** Peter Drescher, (802) 479-1169, [peter.drescher@state.vt.us](mailto:peter.drescher@state.vt.us)

## **Vermont Curriculum Leaders Association (VTCLA): 2014-2015 Meeting Schedule**

**Audience:** Superintendents, Curriculum Directors, & Teacher Leaders

VTCLA is excited to announce a partnership with the Vermont Agency of Education in affiliation with the Great Schools Partnership to pilot implementation of sample assessment tasks aligned with the Transferable Skills Graduation Proficiencies (<http://education.vermont.gov/pbgr/sample-pbgr>).

Interested VTCLA members will collaborate with VT-AOE and their partners to work with assessment

tasks, providing input and support. These Task Force work sessions will occur during the afternoon of our regularly scheduled meetings. Dates and additional information are available at <http://www.vtcla.org/>.

**Contacts:** Pat Fitzsimmons, Common Core Coordinator, (802) 479-1425 or [pat.fitzsimmons@state.vt.us](mailto:pat.fitzsimmons@state.vt.us) and Sheila Soule, VTCLA Chair, [ssoule@wvsu.org](mailto:ssoule@wvsu.org)

## **Shaping Our Future Together - September 23, 2014**

**Audience:** Students, Faculty, Principals, Superintendents, School Board Members

Join UP for Learning at the Vermont College of Fine Arts for an interactive morning seminar to learn more about the art and science of communications theory and practice as it relates to the current rollout of Act 77- Flexible Pathways. Participants attending this seminar will return home with an understanding of the fundamentals of Strategic Framing; research about how Americans think about education and learning; and tools and strategies that have been field-tested in Vermont.

This seminar is open to any Vermont school that will be actively engaged in implementing Act 77 in the coming year, including interested students, educators and community members

For more information, please visit: <http://upforlearning.com/index.php/communicating-school-redesign>

**Contact:** Helen Beattie at (802)-472-5127 or [hnbeattie@gmail.com](mailto:hnbeattie@gmail.com)

## **Getting to 'Y': Youth Bring Meaning to their Youth Risk Behavior Survey**

**Audience:** Middle and High School Students, Faculty, Principals, SAP Counselors, School Counselors

The "Getting to Y" initiative provides an opportunity for students to take a lead in bringing meaning to their own Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) data, and take steps to strengthen their school and community based on their findings. Teams attending this training will return home with the skills and confidence to: plan and facilitate a YRBS analysis process with the student body, lead a dialogue night to share their analysis with the community, initiate an action to improve the health of their community based on their findings, along with community input and reflect on the impact of their efforts.

For more information, please visit: <http://upforlearning.com/index.php/programs/yatst/gty-workshop-oct-1-2014>

**Contact:** Helen Beattie at (802)-472-5127 or [hnbeattie@gmail.com](mailto:hnbeattie@gmail.com)

## **Learning & the Brain: The Story of Great Expectations**

**Audience:** Middle and High School Students, Faculty, Principals, SAP Counselors, School Counselors

The intention of this initiative is to build school communities that understand that ALL young people have the capacity to be active learners and leaders. Teams attending this training will return home with the skills and confidence to: explore the powerful role of expectations in learning and of mindsets, dispelling the common myth that intelligence is fixed; share how the brain processes information; and organize forms to share this information with peers, teachers and parents.

For more information, please visit: <http://bit.ly/1p7b5rQ>

**Contact:** Helen Beattie at (802)-472-5127 or [hnbeattie@gmail.com](mailto:hnbeattie@gmail.com)

## **Personal Learning Plans and Tools: Naviance Training and Resources**

**Audience:** High School Administrators, Educators

VSAC is actively setting up training sessions for new users of Naviance, an online resource jointly funded by VSAC and the Agency of Education. If you have not reached out to us to get on the schedule yet, please do so soon so you can take advantage of a time slot that best fits your schedule.

eDocs: For schools with 12th grade students interested in purchasing the "eDocs" add-on, which allows for secure transmission of documents to postsecondary institutions, you will need to sign up with us and

Hobsons (the company which owns Naviance) before Tuesday, Sept. 2. Hobsons has informed us that should a school purchase eDocs after Sept. 2, this service will not be available with Common Application member institutions for the 2014-2015 academic year.

'Do What You Are' and 'MI Advantage': VSAC is offering, at no cost, two powerful personality/career assessments to public-servicing schools that serve 7-12 grade students. "Do What You Are" and "MI Advantage" are tools that support the exploration of interests and potential career and college opportunities in alignment with the statewide PLP initiative. Detailed information about each of these assessment solutions can be found at the following links: [Do What You Are](#) and [MI Advantage](#). For more information please contact VSAC at 802-654-3782 or [Naviance@vsac.org](mailto:Naviance@vsac.org)

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This Field Memo is posted weekly by the Vermont Agency of Education (VT-AOE) to better organize our e-communications to the field. There may be times when separate messages from the department will still be sent. In addition, the VT-AOE Weekly Field Memo is [archived](#) on the Agency of Education website.

**Sign up for the weekly field memo here:** [http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/field\\_memo.html](http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/field_memo.html)

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